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Maria Miller retains her seat as Labour close the gap
Pages 2 and 3



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FREE TAKE ONE

Anger as council facing £140m of extra savings

By Matthew Brown

THE Tories have been accused of running down services in Hampshire as it emerged this week that the county council has to find cuts of £140million in less than two years.

The authority's cabinet meets on Monday for the first time since the May elections and faces 'its biggest financial challenge yet' - to plug the multi-million pound budget gap by April 2020 in light of national austerity cuts.

Cllr Gavin James, Liberal Democrat for Basingstoke South East, fears health and social care will take the brunt of the £140million savings.

He said: "What I find most frustrating is the Conservatives spend the whole of April campaigning for the county council elections, not making any mention at all of spending cuts."

Cllr Roy Perry, leader of the Conservative-controlled council, said that the authority had been preparing for the 2019/20 challenge by "securing savings early, reinvesting in new, more efficient ways of working and making prudent use of our reserves to meet gaps in funding".

He said the council had already slashed spending by £340million since 2008, when national austerity began.

But he acknowledged the picture is worsened further because the Government's revenue support grant - this year worth £37million to Hampshire

- will be stopped in 2019/20.

Cllr Perry pledged that while services were being placed under severe pressure, investment in infrastructure will be maintained.

But this did not wash with Cllr James. He said: "They got elected to the county council, not to run it but to run it down."

"The council have a lot of money in reserves, we could look at that money and see how we can invest it - they could work with the borough council to make sure they invest it wisely to get a return on that investment."

"They've chosen against that because they're ideologically driven to make cuts."

He said that these cuts would have a detrimental impact on Basingstoke, on health and social care and that ring-fencing infrastructure would just see other areas 'cut more harshly'. "We've got to look at alternatives rather than constantly making cuts."

Cllr Perry acknowledged that radical ways of making ends meet need to be found at a time when demand for services, particularly social care, was growing.

He said: "We will be proposing potential options to residents in the summer, to seek their views on what we might do over the next two years."

"There is no question this is a big challenge - but we have risen to every such challenge in recent years and we will do so again."



Oh man, you're certainly dressed to frill!

It's not everyday you see a man wearing a white tutu, complete with purple wig, but it happened at the Race for Life on Saturday.

Down Grange Sports Complex was awash with thousands of women (and men) clad in pink, all raising money for Cancer Research.

They took part in 5k and 10k races alongside a 'Pretty Muddy' obstacle course. Credit: @thatguyinatutu (twitter).



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Malthouse humbled by huge wave of support

By Matthew Brown

IN North West Hampshire, Kit Malthouse was elected for a second time with 62.1 per cent of the vote – the highest since the constituency was formed in 1983.

The Conservative comfortably beat his nearest rival, Labour's Andy Fitchet, with 36,471 votes, giving him another large majority of 22,679.

"I am so incredibly humbled to have received an overwhelming level of support from the electors of North West Hampshire," Mr Malthouse said on his Facebook page.

"Over the last two years, I have done my best to get around the 227 square miles of the constituency, into as many nooks and crannies as I can, to understand, help and protect what we have here.

"I promise I will continue to



From left, Alex Payton, Andy Fitchet, the returning officer, Dan Hill and re-elected MP Kit Malthouse
 Picture: Cllr Phil North

do so – starting with supporting our schools with all my might."

Andy Fitchet in second polled 13,792 votes, which also saw

Labour increase their share of the vote by 10.2 per cent from 2015.

Alex Payton of the Liberal

Democrats was third (5,708) followed by UKIP's Roger Clark (1,467) and Dan Hill from the Green Party (1,334).

Victory gives the Tories 'clear mandate on Brexit'

ONCE again Ranil Jayawardena picked up one of the biggest majorities in the country as he convincingly won North East Hampshire for a second time.

The Conservative received 37,754 votes, giving him a huge majority of 27,772 although this was slightly down on the 29,916 majority he gained in the 2015 general election.

"This is not an election anyone wanted, but it was an election we needed – because some were seeking to frustrate Brexit," he said. "Locally we have a clear mandate."

Labour candidate Barry Jones was a distant second with 9,982 votes, ahead of Liberal Democrat Graham Cockarill (6,987), Green's Chas Spradbery (1,476), Mike Gascoigne of UKIP (1,061) and the independent candidate Robert Blay with 367 votes.

Turnout was 76 per cent, with Mr Jayawardena receiving 65.5 per cent of the vote.

From left, re-elected MP Ranil Jayawardena, Graham Cockarill, Barry Jones, Chas Spradbery and Mike Gascoigne
 Picture: Cllr Tristan Robinson



General

Lib Dems: We're rebuilding well

FOR third-placed Liberal Democrat candidate John Shaw, he "felt positive".

Mr Shaw, who stood for Basingstoke in the 2010 general election, finished 16,638 votes behind Labour with 3,406.

"I feel ok, I think there's a danger as a third party that you get squeezed in elections but I feel positive that we achieved third place," he said.

"This is part of our re-building process as a party.

"I'd like to congratulate Maria and thank the other candidates for their role in the campaign which I think was a very constructive one and I am looking forward to the future challenges."

The Lib Dems saw their share of the vote drop slightly, down by 1.3 per cent on 2015.

■ UKIP's Alan Stone finished in fourth with 1,681 votes.

He said earlier on in the night he was "quite happy with the campaign" and that "it's been good to hold the Tories to account and expose Labour" during the process.

Mr Stone, a local antiques businessman, stood for the party in 2015.

■ The Green Party's Richard Winter was fifth, receiving 1,106 votes for a two per cent share overall.

"I'd like to thank the other candidates for a very clean and respectful process," he said.

■ Scott Neville of the Libertarian Party received 213 votes and said his campaign had been "good fun".

"We've been trying to capitalise on the people who don't vote," he said on the night, adding that he hoped people would "be hearing from us again in the future".

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Miller says it's a privilege to be elected for fourth time in row

By Matthew Brown

IT WAS a case of déjà vu in Basingstoke as Maria Miller was elected MP for the fourth successive time.

The Tory hopeful was elected with 29,510 votes, giving her a majority of 9,466 over Labour challenger, second placed Terry Bridgeman.

"I think we've seen tonight that the agenda the Conservative Party has set out resonates with the people of Basingstoke," she said in her victory speech.

"We want to see more people who can be working hard to set up their own business, to be able to see new rights and protections for workers, increasing the budget of the NHS every year and helping more people have a home of their own, the affordable houses that we're building in Basingstoke."

"I'll be working to deliver as your member of parliament in Westminster, working with Theresa May."

Although the 53-year-old's 11,063 majority from the 2015 general election was reduced by 1,597, her share of the vote was up 4.2 per cent, benefiting from a slightly improved turnout from 2015 of 68.3 per cent.

The mother-of-three, who was first elected 12 years ago in 2005, spoke of her pride at being elected



Maria Miller makes her acceptance speech after being re-elected with from left, Labour's Terry Bridgeman, Lib Dem John Shaw, Green Richard Winter and Scott Neville of the Libertarian Party

as Basingstoke's representative in the House of Commons:

"It's a huge privilege to have been re-elected as member of parliament... and it's a huge responsibility too."

"It's great to see that our share of the vote has gone up to over 50 per cent which I think shows the confidence that people have in the Conservative Party, locally in Basingstoke."

Runner up raps poll as 'unnecessary'

A "COMPLETELY unnecessary election" was second-placed Terry Bridgeman's view.

"I want to apologise to everyone here tonight for the fact that you had a campaign for the last five or six weeks - a completely unnecessary election," the Labour candidate said

during his speech after the result had been announced.

"I don't know what it's achieved but we've all been working our socks off."

Mr Bridgeman, a retired maintenance engineer with the Metropolitan Police, received 20,044 votes

and Labour's vote share increased by 8.1 per cent - the highest out of all the parties battling it out in Basingstoke.

"I'm very pleased with the result I've got," said the Labour member of more than 40 years, who is also a Rushmoor district councillor.

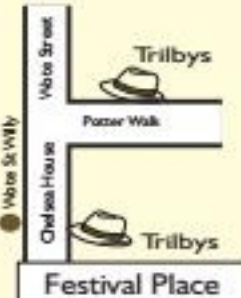
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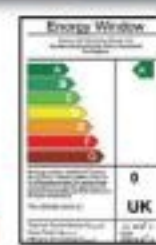
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Performers in last year's Basingstoke Festival parade

Festival to celebrate best of the borough

By Matthew Brown

FOR the sixth year running, the mighty Basingstoke Festival is returning to celebrate those Born in the Borough.

The festival, which opens tomorrow (Friday) and runs until July 9, will showcase the best of the borough's local talents alongside national celebrities such as Jimmy Carr and Elkie Brooks.

Cllr Terri Reid, the borough council's deputy leader who is responsible for art and culture, said: "This year's Basingstoke Festival is a real celebration of local talent including borough-born Jane Austen.

"We have an inspiring programme that will showcase the wealth of talent we have, from local bands in Basingstoke Live

to our young people being given the chance to perform on the Haymarket Stage."

Celebrated 19th century author Jane Austen will be taking centre stage as July marks the 200th anniversary of her death. The Steventon-born author of *Pride and Prejudice* is to be honoured with 25 festival events.

These include the 'bookbench' Sitting with Jane art trail and an open air showing of the 2005 *Pride and Prejudice* film starring Keira Knightly. The author's links to Basingstoke will be highlighted in a talk by local historian Debbie Reavell at the Willis Museum tonight (Thursday) at 7.30pm. Space is limited so ring the museum on 01256 465902 to check.

Colourful and lively, the Basingstoke World Party on June 17 uses

musical performances and food to celebrate the borough's cultural heritage, while the Festival in the Community will set art performances in under-used places.

There are plenty of events to choose from on June 24, including a cheese and chilli food festival in War Memorial Park, the All in the Mind festival at The Orchard, and Picnic in the Park, also at the War Memorial Park.

Tales from the old Thornycroft factory will be relived in a performance by the Thornycroft Girls at the Willis Museum on July 2.

Rounding off the 24-day festival is Basingstoke Live – the free two-day celebration of music from near and far in the War Memorial Park on July 8 and 9.

Visit basingstokefestival.co.uk for further information.

Ex-worker faces fraud charge

A BEGGARWOOD man has been charged over the alleged theft of more than £440,000 from his former employers – a hospital charity.

Ronald Chigunwe, who worked at Wessex Heartbeat, is facing seven charges relating to fraud by abuse of position, converting criminal property and money laundering.

The 40-year-old of Breadels Field worked for the charity, which

is based in the Wessex Cardiac Centre at Southampton General Hospital, as a financial controller.

The charity provides support to patients treated at the centre and their loved ones.

The alleged offences are said to have taken place between November 2008 and June 2015, when Chigunwe left the charity.

John Munro, chief executive of Wessex Heartbeat, said in a state-

ment: "I can confirm that a past member of staff, Ronald Chigunwe, has been charged with a number of historical offences including fraud by abuse of position and at this time, we are awaiting his initial court hearing on July 11.

"It is inappropriate for me to comment further at this stage."

Mr Chigunwe is due to appear at Southampton Magistrates Court on July 11.

News Bites

Success is sweet

TADLEY: A large crowd enjoyed the 'sticky' 36th annual treacle fair at the weekend.

The event, organised by Loddon Valley Lions Club, raised £9,000 for Sebastian's Action Trust and the Tadley Citizens Advice Bureau.

Organisers said they were most grateful to their sponsors and all those who attended on the day.

Vehicles stolen

UPTON GREY: Two new and distinctive utility vehicles have been stolen in a burglary at a farm in

Baymans Lane. Thieves broke into a shed and metal containers before two Kawasaki Mule 4x4 vehicles were stolen between 2am and 3am on June 6.

The utility vehicles were driven away along Baymans Lane, through Upton Grey and along Bidden Road towards Odiham.

PC Andrew Reid said: "These vehicles are nearly new and very distinctive.

"They may well have been left abandoned nearby.

"If you have seen them, or have any information about what happened, please call us."

Anyone with information should

call police on 101, quoting 44170213443 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Sounds of the sea

BASINGSTOKE: Music and songs with a connection to the sea and sea travel are to be performed at Queen Mary's College on July 8.

Neil Streeter's Heritage Light Orchestra and Singers are taking centre stage at the show, organised by the Lions Club and part of the Basingstoke Festival.

It starts at 7.45pm with all proceeds going to good causes. Tickets cost £12 from 01256 421867.

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Tributes flow in for champion of world's forests

By Matthew Brown

TRIBUTES have been paid to a 'force for nature' forest conservationist who was killed when a tree fell on his car near Odiham.

David John Hoyle, 48 of Dippenhall Street, Crondall, was driving on the A287 between Rye Common and Ewshot on June 6 when the tree struck his car, during strong winds.

Emergency services were called to the scene around 7.15am but the father-of-three was pronounced dead at the scene.

His Oxford-based employers, Proforest – where Mr Hoyle worked as the group's conservation and land use director since 2013 – said in a statement his "energy, warm-heartedness, humour will be remembered by all who had the pleasure of meeting him."

"David was passionate about sustainability in general and forest conservation in particu-



David during a visit to Novo Campo sustainable beef project in Mato Grosso, Brazil, 2017. Picture: Proforest

lar, and a gifted professional who inspired respect from everyone who worked with him."

Proforest is a not-for-profit group that specialises in sustainable management and the sourcing of natural resources.

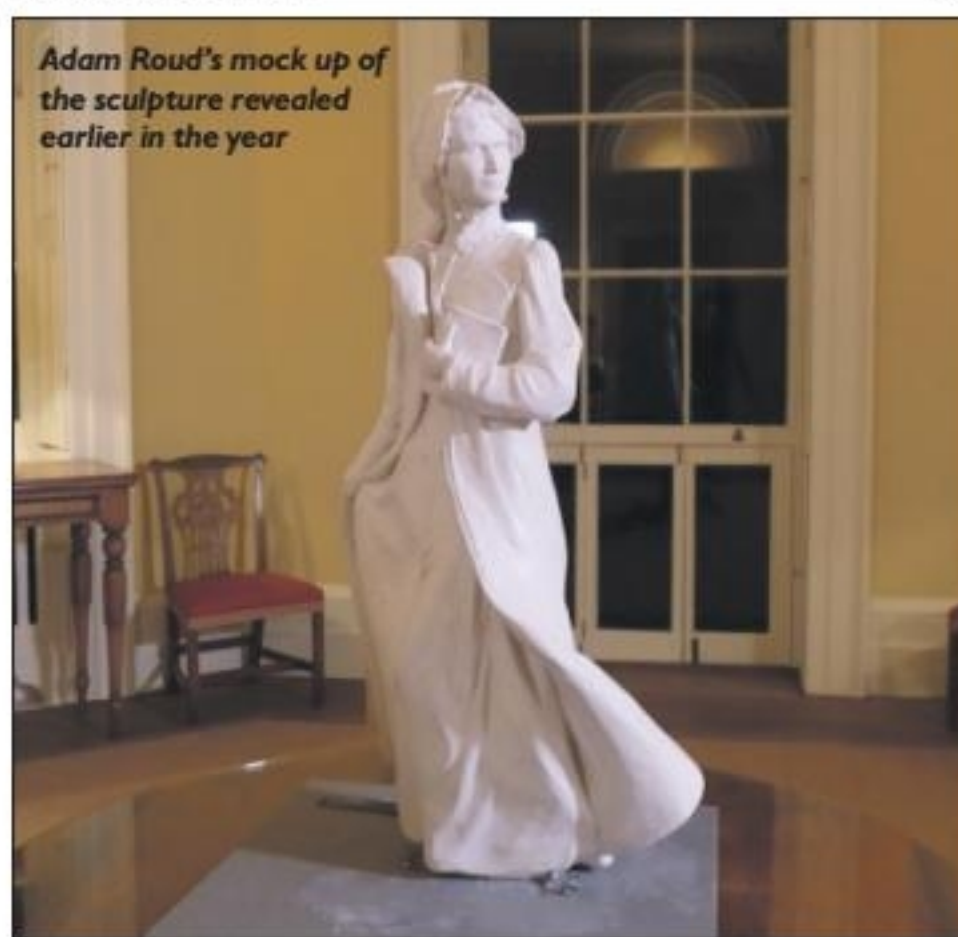
The company said Mr Hoyle made a huge contribution to the drive to reduce deforestation. "We know that the news of David's death will come as a shock to many within the global conservation community."

Proforest said staff had been 'very touched' by the messages and memories they had received from around the world, describing them as a great comfort.

Writing on twitter, Adam Sneyd described Mr Hoyle as 'literally a force of nature, and a force for nature'.

Friends said their thoughts were with Mr Hoyle's wife Marceline and their three children.

Adam Roud's mock up of the sculpture revealed earlier in the year



Author takes pride of place

BASINGSTOKE has written itself into the history books with a life-size bronze sculpture of Jane Austen.

In what is believed to be a first, the Steventon-born Pride and Prejudice author's sculpture will be unveiled on the 200th anniversary of her death, July 18, at noon in Market Place.

Claire Tomalin, author of the biography Jane Austen: A Life, said: "Nothing could be better than a statue of Jane Austen hurrying across Market Place to collect library books, do a little shopping or pick up her mother from Dr Lyford's house – living the busy family life into

which we fitted the writing that has made her world famous.

"It is an inspired idea and will be welcomed by everyone who reads her novels and cares for her memory."

Local sculptor Adam Roud began working on the 5ft 5ins bronze in March.

He said: "The aim of the piece was to have Jane walking in the square where she would have done, I didn't want to put her up on a pedestal, I wanted her to be an ordinary person."

As well as representing Austen as a writer, Mr Roud hopes it shows her as a strong-willed and independent woman in her own right.

News Bites

Pitch up and play

ANDWELL: Footballers are being urged to take part in a five-a-side charity tournament on Saturday.

The annual tournament at the Waterend Sports Ground is in aid of the Make A Wish foundation and raised £1,000 last year.

Registration is at 10am with the tournament kicking off at 11am. The cost is £70 per team.

Decision time

BRAMLEY: An application for 59 houses off Minchens Lane looked set to be approved by the borough council last night.

The development control committee was recommended to approve the plans from applicant Charles Church, despite opposition from the parish council and nearby residents.

Paving the way

BASINGSTOKE: Nurses who have taken time away from the profession are being offered the chance to return thanks to Hampshire Hospitals.

The NHS Foundation Trust runs a 20-week return to practice programme twice a year in partnership with the University of Southampton.

Open days for the programme are being held at the Ark Conference Centre between 10am and noon on June 21, and Winchester Hospital on June 22.

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News Bites

A taste of France

BASINGSTOKE: A flavour of France can be enjoyed at the French market tomorrow.

Croissants, cheeses and crepes will all be on offer in the Market Place and Wote Street between 9am and 5pm.

Spine-tingling tales

BASINGSTOKE: Prepare to be amazed, surprised and chilled to the bone at Chichester Library on July 6 with tales from around the Basingstoke area that will send shivers down the spine.

It starts at 7.30pm and tickets are £5. Book in advance at the library, call 01256 336481 or online at hants.gov.uk/shop/home.

Lottery results

BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE: St Michael's Hospice has announced the winners of its latest lottery draw from June 9.

First prize of £1,000 goes to ticket 42240 of Basingstoke, ticket 25322 also of Basingstoke wins second prize of £100.

Third prize of £50 goes to Basingstoke ticket 40456, and Basingstoke ticket 84918 gets fourth prize of £20.

£5 prizes go to tickets 05025, 83878, 54337, 17212, 75743, 79690, 53894, 16357, 58356, 00828, 08551, 47833, 02540, 57441, 442967 and 61337.

Lady in red is crowned top fundraiser at beauty show

By Matthew Brown

THERE was cause for a double celebration for Miss Basingstoke as she reached the Miss England final and was also crowned top fundraiser.

Nicola Ashcroft, 23, has won the Charity Queen award for the second consecutive time, raising almost £5,000 through hosting a series of charity events.

Thanks to Nicola's selfless efforts, the Shivam Nathwani wheelchair fund for a 10-year-old boy who has Duchenne muscular dystrophy – a muscle-wasting disease – will now be able to purchase a new wheelchair.

This will help Shivam fulfil his dreams and life goals by having increased independence.

Nicola, a beauty therapist and hairdresser, received the award during the semi-final pageant on June 4 at Kelham Hall in Nottinghamshire. Her fundraising over the last two and a half years has raised more than £17,000.

Each semi finalist created their own outfit using recycled materials along the 'Lady in Red' theme.

Nicola described her outfit as a 'race-day style fitting'.

Poppies featured on it that represented Britain and Remembrance Day – something that Nicola believes "is most important, especially with all the conflict going on in the world".

She was up against 63 other women, who also competed in an elegant eveningwear round with support of the finalists of Mr England.

Nicola now advances to the Miss England final in Birmingham between July 12 and 14, where 49 other women from across the country will be hitting the catwalk to battle for the crown of Miss England 2017.

"This competition is about being beautiful inside and out, we are not just looking for a pretty face," said Miss England national director Angie Beasley.



Nicola in her poppy themed outfit
Picture: primephotography.net

Man on scooter bitten on arm by dog in street

A GERMAN Shepherd-type dog has bitten an elderly man on a mobility scooter in South Ham.

The 77-year-old was riding along Western Way sometime between 7.30am and 8.05am on Friday last week when he stopped by a woman and her dog, which was on a lead.

The dog then bit the man, which caused a significant wound to his right arm.

Although the woman, who is said to be in her 50s with shoulder-length blonde hair, said she was going to get help for the pensioner, she never returned to the scene before he was taken for treatment at Basingstoke Hospital.

The woman was also wearing a coat and trousers.

"We would like to find out more about what happened and would like anyone who witnesses this incident to get in touch," said PC Emily Dixon.

"There are some roadworks along this road, and motorists may have seen something while being held at the temporary traffic lights.

"We are also urging the dog owner to contact us directly."

Anyone with information should call the police non-emergency number 101, quoting reference 44170217818.

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Mr.P

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News Bites

Border crossing

WHITCHURCH: Around 30 residents travelled up from Hampshire's Whitchurch to visit their Shropshire namesake.

This was to mark the second worldwide Whitchurch weekend that celebrates all the towns that share the name.

The group took part in many activities including a rounders competition which they won, attended a party in the park and enjoyed canal boat trips.

Summer sounds

BASINGSTOKE: Eastrop Park will once again be alive with the sound of music as members of the Basingstoke Concert Band entertain on Sunday.

They are performing at the bandstand next to the boating lake between 3pm and 5pm.

Bring your picnics, rugs and deckchairs to enjoy a relaxed afternoon of music.

With the exception of July 2 and 9, concerts will be held up until July 30.

Cleaner air drive

BASINGSTOKE: Bus company Stagecoach has marked its annual green week with a campaign calling for tougher action on air quality.

It aims to raise awareness of environmental issues through advertising campaigns and events.

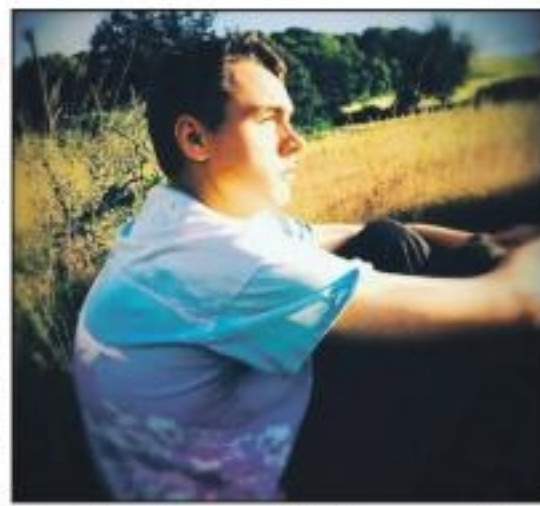
Van driver jailed over crash that killed teen moped rider

By Matthew Brown

A DRIVER has begun a 20 month prison sentence following a crash near Whitchurch in which a 16-year-old moped rider died.

Clergyman's son Macaully Sutcliffe, known to his friends and family as Mac, was killed on October 14 last year in a collision with a van driven by 32-year-old Mohammed Zaman at the junction of Blosswood Lane and Harroway.

Zaman, of Wimbourn Gardens, Reading, pleaded guilty on June 6 to causing the death by careless driving of Mac, a



Mac Sutcliffe was killed in a crash last year by Mohammed Zaman



former Testbourne Community School student described by his family as a "fine young man". Winchester Crown Court heard how Zaman had failed to obey the give way signs at the junction and not paid attention to his sat nav, which warned him

that the junction was approaching.

He had seen Mac, of Apple-gate, St Mary Bourne, indicate but told police in interview he had misinterpreted the direction of indication.

Judge Keith Cutler, summing up, praised the teenager's exemplary riding and said all fault for the collision lay with Zaman.

In addition to the prison sentence, Zaman was banned from driving for two years and 10 months, and ordered to re-take his driving test at the end of the disqualification.

The teenager's father, the Rev Richard Sutcliffe, who is

the assistant benefice priest at St Mary Bourne, said on behalf of his family: "No court sentence can help to fill the gap that is left following the death of our son Mac."

"As well as missing his presence now, we have huge regrets for his future that was so cruelly cut short."

"We are enormously proud of the fine young man that he had become."

"He touched many people and we all miss him dreadfully."

"We are very grateful for all of the support we have received from so many people at this difficult time."

Science has youngsters all in a lava

SCIENCE was brought to life for pupils at Hatch Warren Junior School with slime, fruit and lava lamps.

As part of AWE's primary science challenge, experiments were carried out where magnetic slime, lava lamps and 'fruity' batteries were made.

"All the pupils have been so enthusiastic and engaged," said Dom, a graduate scientist and one of AWE's presenting team.

"It has been fantastic getting involved with this practical science outreach in schools, which is part of AWE's graduate development programme."

"It is so important that youngsters learn early on that science is fun and exciting and offers such a range of great opportunities."

How to make super-fast frozen ice lollies from liquid nitrogen, was also demonstrated, as part of the presentation of scientific

principles such as gravity, magnetism and temperature.

Sapphire, 10, wants to be science teacher: "It has been lots of fun making energy from fruit and seeing how many volts it takes to make an LED bulb light up."

Finlay, also 10, liked the slime: "I always enjoy science but it has been great doing real experiments - it was interesting to prove iron is magnetic making the magnetic slime."



Here's looking at you: Hatch Warren pupils keep their eyes on science

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Local mortgage advisers Michael Usher Mortgage Services based in Winchester Street, Basingstoke have some good news for the over 55s in Basingstoke and surrounding villages. They are now expanding their very successful offering of a mortgage product for homeowners that are:

- Either trapped in an "Interest Only" mortgage
- Nearing the end of their mortgage term with their existing lender and have nowhere to go, as the normal High Street lenders are trying to move these borrowers on
- Customers that have no mortgage on their homes and wish to raise some monies for home improvements, grandchildren's education or even pay for a cruise!

Michael Usher, founder and owner of the firm comments "We have been advising on these products for over 15 years and have made a lot of people very happy with our advice". He goes on to say, "for some people this wide range of products can help homeowners live in their property until they pass on or downsize, this obviously gives total peace of mind for anyone that is feeling the pressure".

The types of lenders that are offering these products are Aviva, Legal & General, LV and Just Retirement to name a few. They are all keen to lend to homeowners who have vast amounts of equity in their homes, who are aged 55 plus and wish to borrow money against their bricks & mortar.

Michael Usher Mortgage Services have the experience to look after your personal needs. They have been successfully arranging mortgages since 1987 and opened their second office in Basingstoke in May 2015. The team is based in the town at the end of the one way system which is one of the best locations in Basingstoke and is headed by founder and owner Michael Usher along with his nephew Sean Usher and Joe Capon, who both have been with the firm for over 4 years. Michael goes on to say, "I am personally committed to giving our clients a 5 Star service from start to finish, I want all prospective customers whether they are First Time Buyers or experienced borrowers to receive 100% customer satisfaction from a local business and not a call centre". If you would like to discuss your mortgage needs with one of our team then please call 01256 637000. We are sure we can help you.



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Pub chef shines out

HEAD chef Gordon Stott has proved he is a shining example in the culinary world.

The 26-year-old landlord at the Sun Inn in Dummer has been named UK pub chef of the year and ranked in the top 30 chefs under 30.

Gordon, who is one of the youngest landlords and head chefs in the country, said: "The last two weeks have been a whirlwind."

"I'm still getting my head around being named the UK's pub chef of the year."

"It's such an honour to be recognised as one of the brightest prospects in the hospitality industry and I'm excited about the attention that this will bring to the pub and our little corner of Hampshire."

The Craft Guild of Chefs Awards recognises top culinary talent from across the country in the competition.

It was a case of third time lucky for Gordon as he has made the final twice before but never won it.

He is now hoping his trail-blazing achievements can inspire others to do what he has done.

"I've dedicated the last six years to making The Sun Inn a success," he said.

"And when the fruits of your labour are finally rewarded, there's just nothing better."

"I hope other young people entering the industry will see me as an example with what you can achieve with hard work and passion."



Gordon with award sponsor Tony Ball from Bidfood at the Craft Guild of Chefs Awards in London

News Bites

Carnival calling

OLD BASING: Fairytales are the theme of the Old Basing Carnival that takes place on Saturday.

The fun begins at 1.30pm when the procession led by the carnival prince and princess riding in a horse drawn carriage leaves Linden Avenue and weaves its way through the village to the recreation ground.

Attractions include arena events, a vintage car display, shooting and archery. Admission is £1 for adults, and is free for children and pensioners.

Quality rating

BASINGSTOKE: Chapel Gate, the new housing development off the Kingsclere Road, has received an 'outstanding' rating in a national industry awards scheme.

The Building for Life 12 awards recognise exceptional design of homes, neighbourhoods and communities, and Chapel Gate received the highest possible rating.

Ian Menham, from the developer Barratt Homes, said: "This outstanding status is a fantastic achievement for the team at Chapel Gate, and demonstrates that as a housebuilder, we are continuing to push the boundaries for design, quality and customer service."

Get stuck into the war on litter

By Matthew Brown

COUNCILLORS are calling on residents to be the eyes and ears of their latest war on litter bugs.

They are being urged to report to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council anyone they spot carelessly chucking their unwanted wrappers and drink cans on the ground or in bushes.

The council's latest drive to 'wipe out the litter bugs' aims to hammer home the message

that anyone failing to dispose of their rubbish in one of the 2,500 bins across the borough faces paying a £75 on-the-spot fine.

Cllr Hayley Eachus, the council's cabinet member for the environment and regulatory service, said: "Dropping rubbish on the ground is unacceptable behaviour."

"If you see someone throwing litter out of a car window, a cigarette butt on the floor in the street, discarding a food

wrapper in the park or tossing a drinks can in a bush - please report it to us.

"By alerting the council to littering offences, our community safety patrol teams and partner agencies, including CCTV operators, can focus their attention on wiping out the litter bugs."

This comes as the borough council has recently announced the fine for fly-tipping has increased to the maximum £400.

At a recent community, envi-

ronment and partnerships committee meeting, Cllr Eachus emphasised the hard-line stance of the borough council towards fly-tipping.

She said: "We take it very seriously, it is illegal and we here at Basingstoke and Deane investigate every report that we get."

"We are trying to find and prosecute everyone that has fly-tipped but sometimes it is hard to find that evidence, but the teams are dedicated to do so."

The amount of fly-tipping incidents the borough council dealt with more than doubled from 1,036 to 2,147 in 2016/17 compared with the previous year.

If needles, syringes and other drug paraphernalia are found discarded then the advice is not to touch them and contact the council.

You can report anyone dropping litter via basingstoke.gov.uk/report, or by calling 01256 844844.

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Puzzles



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Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

- 1 Solid (11)
- 9 Pot (3)
- 10 Avowed (9)
- 11 Drive back (5)
- 13 Unaffected (7)
- 14 State of insensibility (6)
- 16 Sober (6)
- 18 Work (7)
- 19 View (5)
- 20 Self evident (9)
- 21 Be in debt (3)
- 22 Given a second treatment (11)

Quick Clues Down

- 2 Vase (3)
- 3 Part of a flower (5)
- 4 Total (6)
- 5 Supporting framework (7)
- 6 People of a European country (9)
- 7 Capable of operation (11)
- 8 Debased (11)
- 12 Period of freedom from war (9)
- 15 Fascinating person (7)
- 17 Feverish (6)
- 19 Faults (5)
- 21 Poem (3)

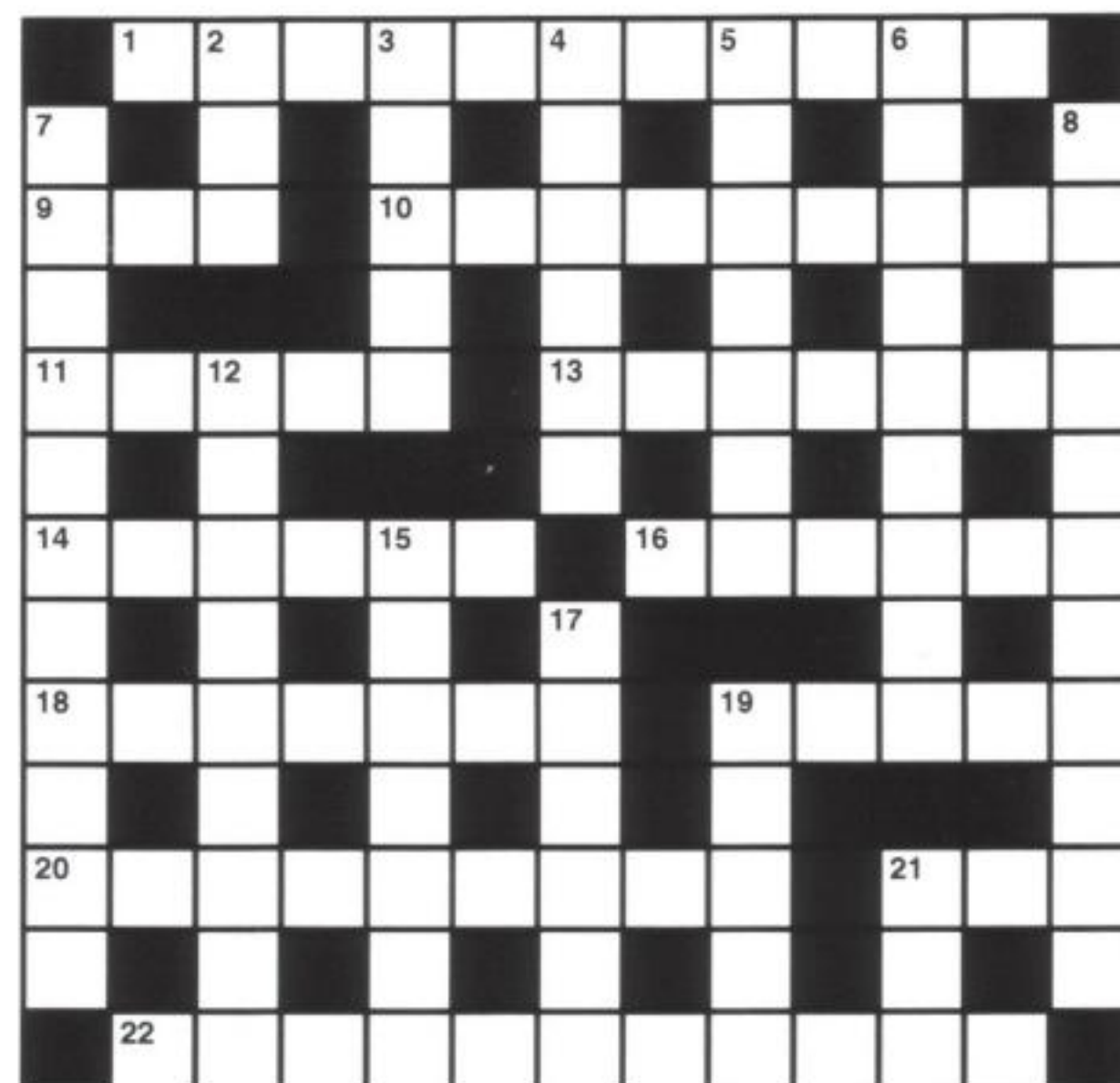
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

- 1 Swindles about surrendering privileges (11)
- 9 It's wrong to take a seat (3)
- 10 Guardian who practises extortion? (9)
- 11 Descriptive of an egg head? (5)
- 13 Food to roast in the melting pot (7)
- 14 Kittens make a mess (6)
- 16 Am, alas, to give author greeting (6)
- 18 Looped the loop? (7)
- 19 Steer round to alter the jewels (5)
- 20 Meaning it's fashionable to take to nursing (9)
- 21 For example, nothing makes one selfish (3)
- 22 Starve under the soldiers of fortune (11)

Cryptic Clues Down

- 2 Boats can carry grain (3)
- 3 Dealt with robbing the priest (5)
- 4 Pushes along and purges drastically (6)
- 5 Give it rein a condition of sloth may emerge (7)
- 6 Natal is no different for its own citizens (9)
- 7 Comedy to your taste (2,3,4,2)
- 8 The effrontery of inferring a fact exists (11)
- 12 Took in that he must be more amusing than Edward? (9)
- 15 Understanding the alliance (7)
- 17 Without direction in this present day split (6)
- 19 He got the message (5)
- 21 Part of what the sinner repents of doing (3)



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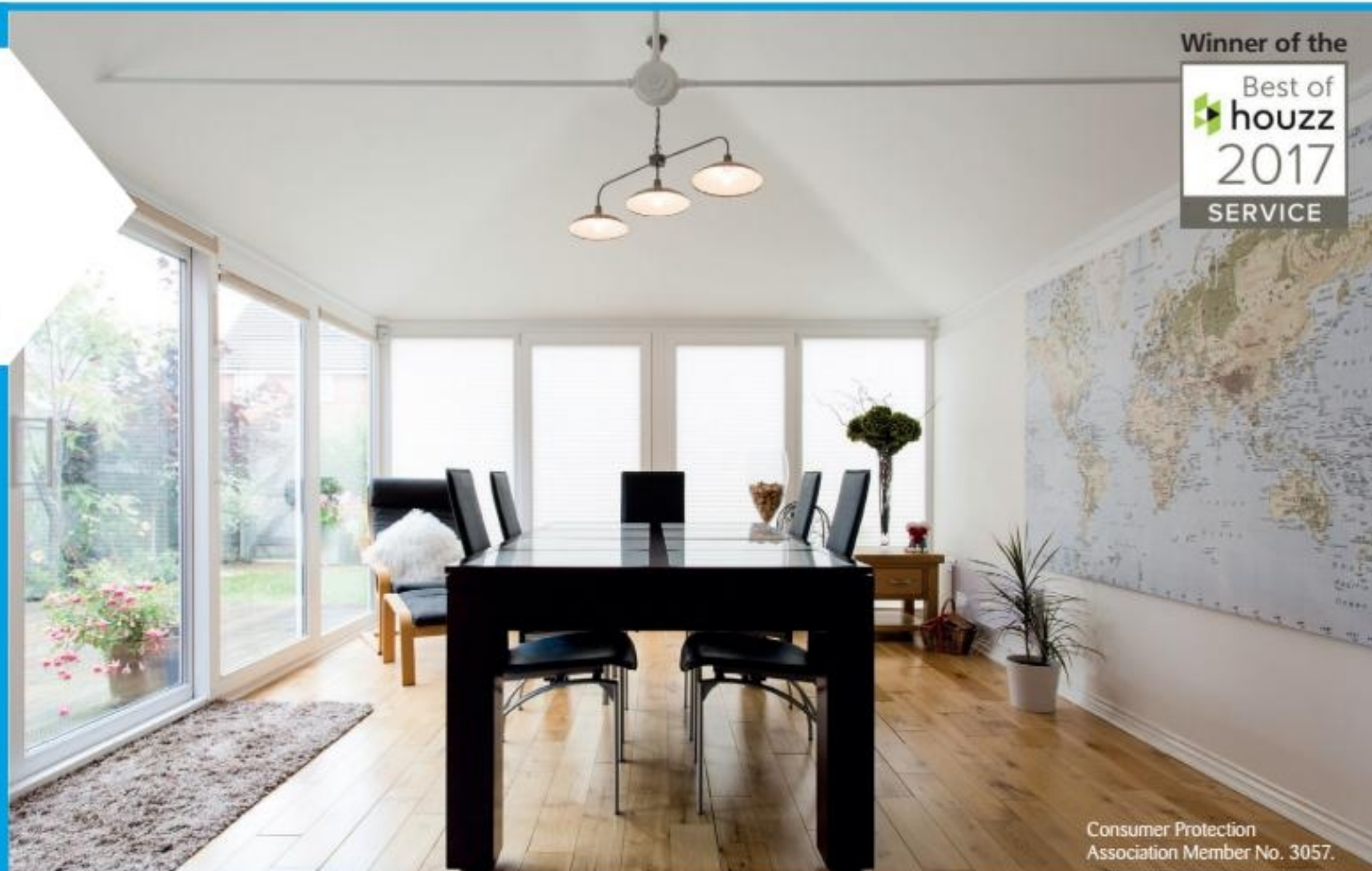
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Puzzles



Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions", or "sub-squares") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

	8	2			4	6		
9				5	1	7	4	
		1	9		6		5	
6				7	5			2
3		8				5		7
7	2		8	6				1
	4		3		8	9		
	5	7	6	2				
		9	5		8	2		

			1		9			
1	7						9	5
9		2				3		7
		8	5		6	1		
			3		4			
		9	7		8	2		
6		1				5		9
3	4						2	6
			4		2			

7		2	3					1
	5							3 7
6				4		8		
	8	1			9			
			4			7	9	
		9		2				6
8	3							7
	2				1	9		5

This week's solutions

4	2	7	6	3	1	9	8	5
8	3	6	5	9	4	2	7	1
5	1	9	7	2	8	3	4	6
2	6	5	4	1	3	7	9	8
9	7	4	8	5	6	1	2	3
3	8	1	2	7	9	5	6	4
6	9	3	1	4	7	8	5	2
1	5	8	9	6	2	4	3	7
7	4	2	3	8	5	6	1	9

8	9	5	4	6	2	7	3	1
3	4	7	9	5	1	8	2	6
6	2	1	8	3	7	5	4	9
4	5	9	7	1	8	2	6	3
7	1	6	3	2	4	9	5	8
2	3	8	5	9	6	1	7	4
9	8	2	6	4	5	3	1	7
1	7	4	2	8	3	6	9	5
5	6	3	1	7	9	4	8	2

1	3	9	5	4	7	8	2	6
8	5	7	6	2	9	1	3	4
2	4	6	3	1	8	9	7	5
7	2	5	8	6	3	4	9	1
3	1	8	4	9	2	5	6	7
6	9	4	1	7	5	3	8	2
4	7	1	9	8	6	2	5	3
9	6	3	2	5	1	7	4	8
5	8	2	7	3	4	6	1	9

Quick Crossword
Across: 1 Sentimental 9 Odd 10 Education 11
Sandra 13 Seepage 14 Quaint 16 Strive 18
Endures 19 Tenet 20 Carbonate 21 Wan 22
Prospectors
Down: 2 End 3 Theta 4 Mousse 5 Nearest
6 Agitation 7 Consequence 8 Intertwining 12
Meanderer 15 Narrows 17 Escape 19 Theft
21 War
Cryptic Crossword
Across: 1 Long-sighted 0, Hat 10 Shellfish 11
Sies 13 Archaic 14 Losers 16 Strive 18
Steamer 19 Conic 20 Overdrawn 21 Who 22
Slyness
Down: 2 Out 3 Gasp 4 Ketchup 5 Helical 6
Exposition 7 Whistle stop 7 Chicken coop 12
Canyon 21 Was

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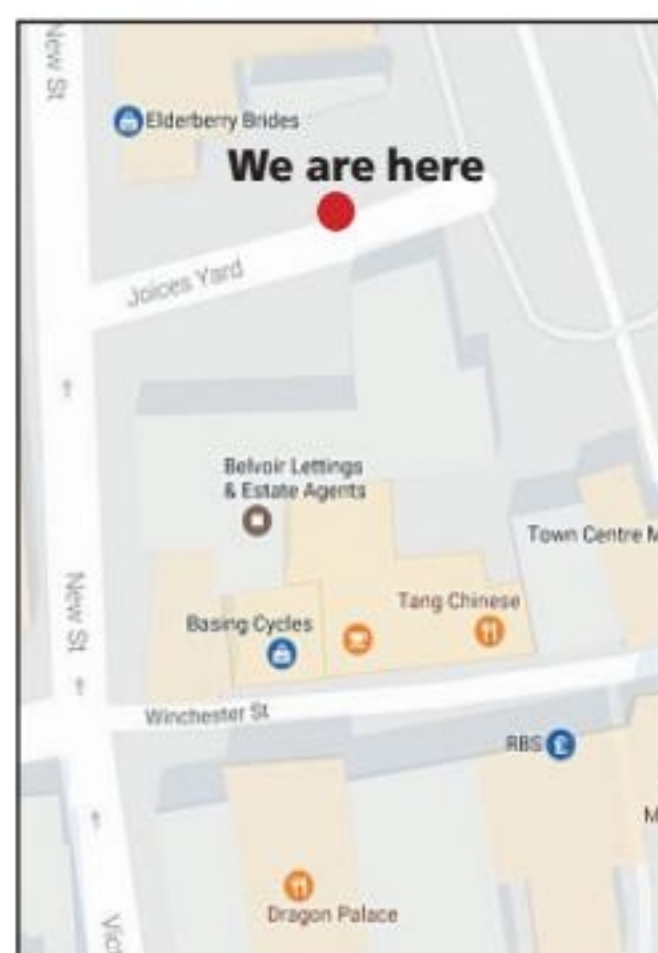
We also do probate work for local solicitors, mostly free, as well as a lot of valuation work for social services and charities.

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Competition

Breeze into Summer!

WIN Three Months Health Club Membership at The Hampshire Court Hotel Health Club worth £250

WITH the warmer season upon us, there are so many reasons to get fit – whether you want to lose or gain a few pounds, increase your stamina for a favourite sport or generally just improve your fitness and well-being, now you can by entering our competition to win three months health club membership with QHotels' The Hampshire Court Hotel Health Club.

One lucky winner will win a three month off-peak health club membership at The Hampshire Court Hotel in Basingstoke. The four star hotel is home to a large health club & spa featuring state-of-the-art equipment and a highly trained team of experienced fitness instructors who can help you achieve your fitness goals. Ideal for both experienced fitness fanatics and newcomers, this friendly, sociable club offers a full suite of over 50 items of eco-friendly cardio and resistance equipment. With a distinct weight and functional training area, you'll be spoilt for choice when planning your workout. A full Les Mills exercise programme

Closing date: Friday, June 30

runs in the Group Exercise Studios with all the most popular classes available, as well as a brand new, exhilarating Virtual Spinning class in the Spinning Studio and mindful Yoga and Pilates classes in the Mind and Body Studio. The Hampshire Court Hotel Health Club also has five modern, indoor tennis courts with tournaments and coaching sessions available, as well as a popular Boot Camp. What's more, you can get in some strokes in one of two indoor swimming pools before feeling the wellness benefits of the spa sauna and steam room.

You can download a FREE one day pass for The Hampshire Court Health

Club at QHotels.co.uk/health-clubs/one-day-pass/

For details on becoming a member of The Hampshire Court Hotel Health Club & Spa please visit QHotels.co.uk/our-locations/the-hampshire-court-hotel/health-club/

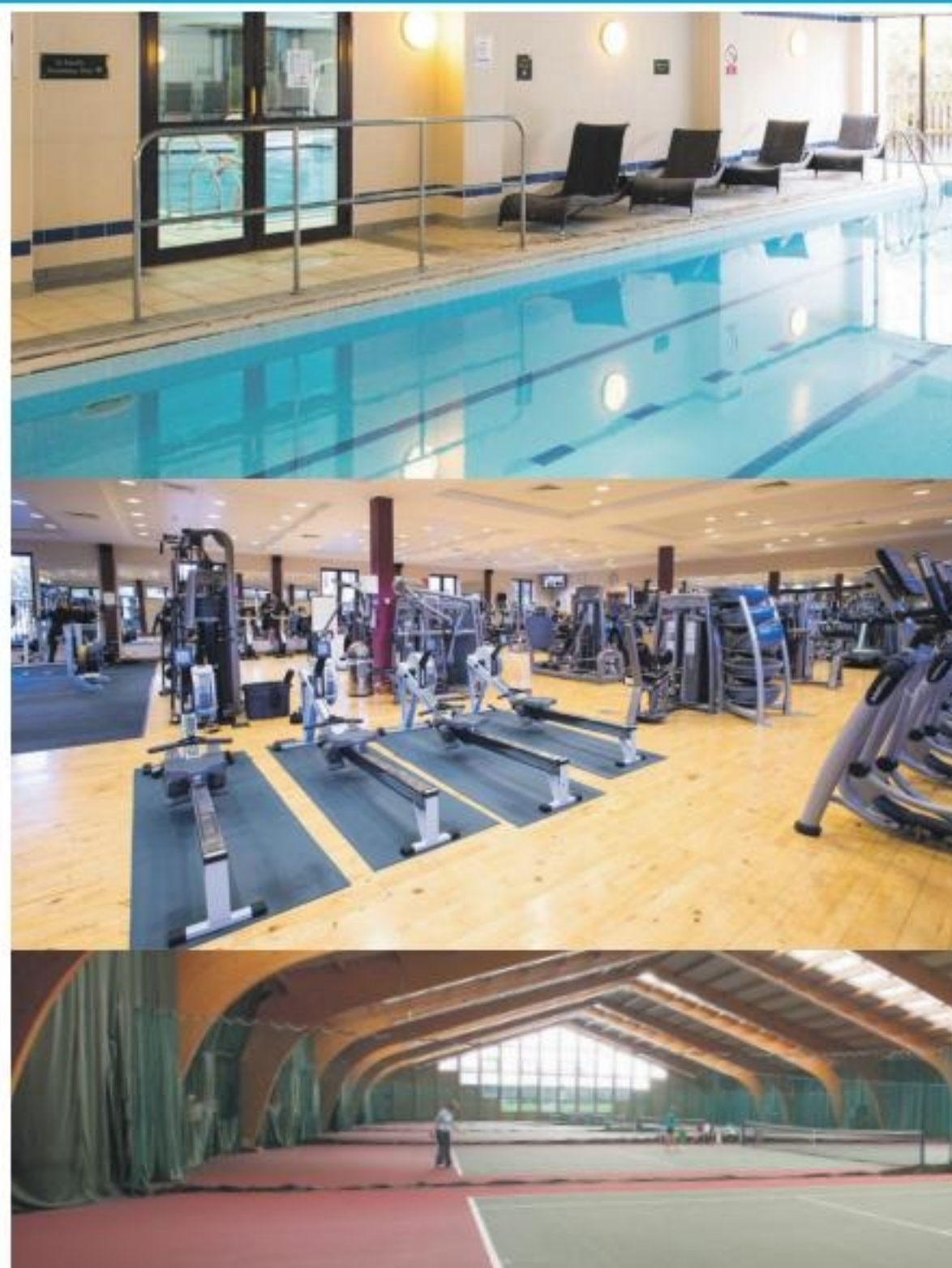
Win 3 months membership

We have a 3 month membership for one lucky winner and to be in with a chance of winning all you have to do is answer this simple question.

Q: How many indoor tennis courts are there at The Hampshire Court Hotel Health Club?

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to www.basingstokeobserver.co.uk or www.newburyobserver.co.uk

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ACT, SING & DANCE

Saturday June 17th

	BBC1	BBC2	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5
	Pointless Celebrities, 5.55pm 	Trooping the Colour 2017: Highlights, 6pm 	The Voice Kids, 7.30pm 	Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It, 5.35pm 	Funniest Ever Crazy Cats, 6.15pm 
DAYTIME	6.00 Breakfast (S) 9.00 Saturday Kitchen Live (S) 10.30 Trooping the Colour 2017 (S) 1.05 BBC News; Weather (S) 1.20 Athletics: Diamond League Highlights (S) 2.20 Live Challenge Cup Rugby League (S) 5.05 Celebrity Mastermind (S)(R) 5.35 BBC News (S) 5.45 BBC Regional News; Weather (S) 5.55 Pointless Celebrities An edition focusing on the subject of music. (S)(R) 6.45 Doctor Who (S)	9.30 Monty Halls' Great Irish Escape (S)(R) 10.30 Great British Menu (S)(R) 11.30 Mary Berry Cooks (S)(R) 12.00 Homes Under the Hammer (S)(R) 1.00 Bargain Hunt (S)(R) 2.00 Paul Newman: Talking Pictures (S)(R) 2.30 FILM Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (1958) (12) (S) 4.15 Flog It! (S)(R) 5.00 Gardeners' World (S)(R) 6.00 Trooping the Colour 2017: Highlights (S)	6.00 CITV 8.25 ITV News (S) 8.30 Weekend (S) 9.25 The Home Game (S)(R) 10.25 FILM Carry On Cowboy (1966) (U) (S) 12.15 ITV News; Weather (S) 12.30 Tipping Point (S)(R) 1.30 FILM Three Men and a Cradle (1987) (PG) (S) 3.30 Live 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup (S) 6.15 ITV Regional News; Weather (S) 6.20 ITV News (S) 6.35 You've Been Framed! Top 100 Sport Stars (S)(R)	6.10 Mobil 1 The Grid (S) 6.40 Motor Sport: British GT (S) 7.05 Bloodwise Blenheim Palace Triathlon (S) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond (S)(R) 8.55 Frasier (S)(R) 9.55 The Big Bang Theory (S)(R) 11.25 The Simpsons (S)(R) 12.55 Four in a Bed (S)(R) 3.35 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun (S)(R) 4.35 Big House, Little House (S) 5.35 Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It (S)(R) 6.30 Channel 4 News (S)	6.00 Milkshake! 9.45 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S)(R) 10.20 Access (S) 10.25 Police Interceptors (S)(R) 11.20 Police Interceptors: Drugs Bust (S)(R) 12.20 On Benefits: To Heat or to Eat? (S)(R) 1.20 The Great British Benefits Handout (S)(R) 2.20 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door (S)(R) 4.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away (S)(R) 6.10 5 News (S) 6.15 Funniest Ever Crazy Cats (S)
7	7.30 Pitch Battle New series. Mel Giedroyc presents as choirs of all sizes, genres and voices compete in a series of knock-out challenges. (S)	7.30 The Venice Biennale: Sink or Swim Emerging artists seek recognition and patronage at the annual art festival. (S)	7.30 The Voice Kids The blind auditions continue, as William, Danny Jones and Pixie Lott all hope to recruit the best young singers in the UK to their teams.	7.00 The Autistic Gardener New series. Alan Gardner returns to transform more suburban British gardens into horticultural masterpieces. (S)	7.00 Blind Date New series. Paul O'Grady hosts a revival of the dating show. (S)
8		8.00 Live International Rugby Union Argentina v England (kick-off 8.15pm). Jason Mohammad presents coverage of the concluding match of the two-Test series, at the Estadio Brigadier General Estanislao Lopez, Santa Fe. (S)		8.00 FILM Iron Man 2 (2010) (12) Adventure sequel, with Robert Downey Jr and Mickey Rourke. (S)	8.00 Before They Were Stars Dale Winton revisits popular celebrities' earliest, most embarrassing brushes with fame. (S)
9	9.00 Casualty The day of Cal's funeral arrives. (S) 9.50 Mrs Brown's Boys Agnes throws Trevor a party. (S)(R)		9.00 FILM Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason (2004) (15) Comedy sequel, starring Renee Zellweger, Colin Firth and Hugh Grant. (S)		9.00 Big Brother Daily round-up of highlights, revealing the housemates' reactions to the second eviction, as well as arguments, laughs and diary room visits. (S)
10	10.20 BBC News; Weather (S) National Lottery Update (S) 10.40 FILM Shanghai Knights (2003) (12) Martial arts comedy sequel, starring Jackie Chan, Owen Wilson and Aidan Gillen. (S)	10.30 Kevin Bridges: A Whole Different Story The comedian on stage in Glasgow in 2015. (S)(R)		10.25 FILM The Maze Runner (2014) (12) Premiere. Sci-fi adventure, with Dylan O'Brien and Kaya Scodelario. (S)	10.00 Michael McIntyre: Live at the Comedy Store A performance by the comedian. (S) 10.30 The Michael McIntyre Story Documentary about the comedian's rise to fame. (S)(R)
11		11.30 Versailles Madame de Montespan takes desperate steps to reverse her fall from grace. (S)(R) Inside Versailles (S)(R)	11.05 ITV News; Weather (S) 11.25 The Chase Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions. (S)(R)		11.55 Access Showbiz news and gossip. (S)
AFTER 12	12.30 Weather for the Week Ahead (S) 12.35 BBC News (S)	12.30 FILM Cafe de Flore (2011) (15) Drama, with Vanessa Paradis and Kevin Parent. 2.25 This Is BBC Two (S)	12.25 Jackpot247 3.00 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S)(R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen	12.35 FILM The Stone Roses: Made of Stone (2013) (15) Documentary about the band's 2012 reunion concerts. (S) 2.15 Hollyoaks (S) 4.15 Ackley Bridge (S)(R) 5.10 Fifteen to One (S)(R)	12.00 SuperCasino 3.05 FILM Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans (2009) (18) Crime drama, starring Nicolas Cage. (S) 5.00 House Doctor (S)(R) 5.25 Wildlife SOS (S)(R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

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DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Planet's Funniest Animals **6.20** Emmerdale **8.50** Coronation Street **11.20** Take Me Out **12.20** You've Been Framed! Gold **12.50** FILM: Sweet Home Alabama (2002) (12) Romantic comedy, starring Reese Witherspoon and Josh Lucas. **1.50** FYI Daily **1.55** FILM: Sweet Home Alabama (2002) (12) Concluded. **3.00** FILM: The Flintstones (1994) (U) Live-action version of the cartoon comedy, with John Goodman. **4.00** FYI Daily **4.05** FILM: The Flintstones (1994) (U) Concluded. **4.45** FILM: St Trinian's (2007) (12) Comedy, starring Rupert Everett. **5.45** FYI Daily **5.50** FILM: St Trinian's (2007) (12) Concluded. **6.50** FILM: Arthur (2011) (12) Comedy remake, starring Russell Brand. **7.50** FYI Daily **7.55** FILM: Arthur (2011) (12) Concluded. **9.00** Love Island: The Weekly Hot List **10.00** Celebrity Juice: X Factor Special **10.50** Family Guy **12.20** American Dad! **12.50** FILM: Zack and Miri Make a Porno (2008) (18) **1.50** FYI Daily **1.55** FILM: Zack and Miri Make a Porno (2008) (18) **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Murder, She Wrote **8.40** The Darling Buds of May **11.05** FILM: Death on the Nile (1978) (PG) Agatha Christie mystery, with Peter Ustinov. **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10** FILM: Death on the Nile (1978) (PG) Concluded. **1.55** Lewis **3.50** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.55** Rosemary & Thyme **7.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Foyle's War **11.00** Law & Order: UK **2.00** On the Buses **2.25** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Nicola Benedetti's Indian Serenade **7.30** BBC Cardiff Singer of the World 2017 **9.00** Cardinal **10.25** FILM: Lemmy: The Movie (2010) (15) Documentary charting the life of the Motorhead frontman. **12.20** Lemmy: In His Own Words **12.45** Heavy Metal Britannia **2.15** David Bowie and the Story of Ziggy Stardust **3.15** Lemmy: In His Own Words **3.40** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Kevin Can Wait **6.20** The Goldbergs **7.05** Couples Come Dine with Me **9.05** Melissa & Joey **11.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **12.00** The Goldbergs **2.30** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **2.45** FILM: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (2009) (U) Comedy, starring Zachary Levi. **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** FILM: Easy A (2010) (15) Teen comedy, starring Emma

Stone. **10.55** Gogglebox **1.00** Rude Tube **2.05** Tattoo Fixers **2.55** Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. **3.40** The Goldbergs **4.25** How I Met Your Mother

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Four in a Bed **11.35** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away **1.40** Location, Location, Location **2.45** Come Dine with Me **4.50** Great Canal Journeys **7.55** Rivers with Jeremy Paxman **9.00** It Was Alright in the 1970s **10.00** It Was Alright in the 1980s **11.05** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **1.15** It Was Alright in the 1970s **2.15** It Was Alright in the 1980s **3.15** 8 Out of 10 Cats Uncut **3.55** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Vice Versa (1988) (PG) Fantasy comedy, starring Judge Reinhold and Fred Savage. **1.00** Epic (2013) (U) Animated adventure, with the voice of Amanda Seyfried. **3.05** Carry On Regardless (1961) (U) Slapstick comedy, starring Sid James. **4.55** Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (2013) (PG) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Logan Lerman. **7.00** About a Boy (2002) (12) Romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant and Toni Collette. **9.00** Commando (1985) (18) Action adventure, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **10.50** Conan the Barbarian (1982) (15) Fantasy adventure, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **1.25** The Boxer from Shantung (1972) (18) **4.00** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

6.00 Home Shopping **7.10** Deadly 60 **9.00** Top Gear **12.00** Red Bull Soapbox Race **1.00** Top Gear **2.00** Gavin & Stacey **4.00** Outnumbered **6.00** Top Gear India Special **8.00** Dynamo: Magician Impossible **9.00** Would I Lie to You? **11.00** Gavin & Stacey **1.00** Would I Lie to You? **2.50** Game of Arms **4.00** Home Shopping

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Secret Army **11.00** Sharpe **1.00** Secret Army **5.00** Open All Hours **7.00** Hetty Wainthropp Investigates **8.00** Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries **9.00** Taggart **11.55** Waking the Dead **2.10** Sharpe **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 British and Irish Lions Tour **8.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **1.00** Duck Quacks Don't Echo **1.30** Futurama **4.00** Modern Family **6.30** The Simpsons **8.00** MacGyver **9.00** A League of Their Own: US Road Trip 2.0 **10.00** Carpool Karaoke Special **11.00** Football's Funniest

Moments **12.00** Jamestown **1.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **3.00** Brit Cops: War on Crime **4.00** Stop, Search, Seize **5.00** Zoo Tales

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 Storm City **9.00** Urban Secrets **11.00** FILM: Dinosaur 13 (2014) (PG) The true story of one of history's greatest dinosaur discoveries. **1.00** House **4.00** Without a Trace **9.00** Game of Thrones **10.00** La Week Tonight with John Oliver **10.35** Real Time with Bill Maher **11.45** Sarah Silverman: We Are Miracles **12.55** Game of Thrones **2.10** The Borgias **3.10** Public Enemy **4.15** Storm City **5.05** The Guest Wing

W SKY: 109

6.10 Betty White's Off Their Rockers **7.00** Inside the Ambulance **8.00** The Bill **1.00** EastEnders **3.30** Jamie's Money Saving Meals **5.00** David Attenborough's Natur Curiosities **6.00** My Family **8.00** One Born Every Minute **9.00** FILM: The Bodyguard (1992) (15) Romantic thriller, with Kevin Costner and Whitney Houston. **11.4** Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders **12.40** Grimm **1.40** Betty White's Off Their Rockers **2.30** Bondi Rescue **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Bob Monkhouse: Million Joke Man **8.00** One Foot in the Grave **8.40** Porridge **9.20** Last of the Summer Wine **11.20** Only Fools and Horses **9.00** Citizen Khan **11.00** Black Books **12.10** FILM: Monty Python Live at the Hollywood Bowl (1982) **1.50** Garth Marenghi's Darkplace **2.20** Steve Coogan: The Man Who Thinks He's It **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Live International Rugby Union. Australia v Scotland (kick-off 6.00am). **8.00** Live British and Irish Lions Tour. Maori All Blacks v British & Irish Lions (kick-off 8.35am). **11.00** International Rugby Union **11.30** UEFA European Under-21s Championship Football **12.00** Football's Greatest Teams **1.00** British and Irish Lions Tour **2.00** International Rugby Union **2.30** Fight Night International **4.30** Live UEFA European Under-21 Championship Football. Portugal v Serbia (kick-off 5.00pm). **7.00** Ward v Kovalev 24/7 **7.30** Live UEFA European Under-21s Championship Football. Spain v Macedonia (kick-off 8.00pm). **10.00** Live Fight Night. Tyrone Zeuge v Paul Smith. **12.00** Fight Night International **2.00** Live Fight Night International.

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Sunday June 18th

	BBC1	BBC2	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5
	Countryfile , 7pm 	Dragons' Den , 7pm 	Live 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup , 3.30pm 	The Handmaid's Tale , 9pm 	Most Shocking Reality Moments , 10pm 
DAYTIME	10.00 Sunday Morning Live (S) 11.00 Sunday Politics (S) 12.15 Bargain Hunt (S)(R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather (S) 1.15 Homes Under the Hammer (S)(R) 2.15 Money for Nothing (S)(R) 3.00 Flog It! (S)(R) 3.45 Escape to the Country (S)(R) 4.30 Lifeline (S) 4.40 Points of View (S) 4.55 Songs of Praise (S) 5.30 Eat Well for Less? (S)(R) 6.30 BBC News (S) 6.50 BBC Regional News; Weather (S)	6.50 The Instant Gardener (S)(R) 7.35 Gardeners' World (S)(R) 8.35 The Beechgrove Garden (S)(R) 9.05 Countryfile (S)(R) 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites (S) 11.30 Great British Menu (S)(R) 1.00 The Best Dishes Ever (S)(R) 1.30 Sailing: America's Cup Highlights (S) 2.30 Live Challenge Cup Rugby League (S) 5.00 Rowing World Cup (S) 6.00 The Fifteen Billion Pound Railway (S)(R)	6.00 CITY 8.25 ITV News (S) 8.30 Weekend (S) 9.25 Britain's Best Walks with Julia Bradbury (S)(R) 10.00 Peston on Sunday (S) 11.00 FILM Carry On Cruising (1962) (U) (S) 12.45 ITV News; Weather (S) 1.00 Tipping Point (S)(R) 2.00 The Voice Kids (S)(R) 3.30 Live 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup (S) 6.15 ITV Regional News; Weather (S) 6.20 ITV News (S) 6.35 Britain As Seen on ITV (S)(R)	6.45 Everybody Loves Raymond (S)(R) 7.35 Frasier (S)(R) 8.55 Eating Well with Hemsley + Hemsley (S) 9.30 Sunday Brunch (S) 12.30 Eat the Week (S) 1.35 The Simpsons (S)(R) 2.30 FILM The Book of Life (2014) (U) (S) 4.30 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun (S)(R) 5.30 Homes by the Sea Charlie Luxton explores the Menai Bridge in Anglesey, Wales. (S) 6.30 Channel 4 News (S)	6.00 Milkshake! 10.30 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S)(R) 11.05 Animals Make You Laugh Out Loud (S)(R) 11.30 Police Interceptors: Drugs Bust (S)(R) 12.30 Police Interceptors (S)(R) 1.30 FILM Footloose (1984) (15) (S) 3.35 FILM Dirty Dancing (2017) (12) Musical remake of the romantic drama, starring Abigail Breslin. (S) 6.10 FILM Monster-in-Law (2005) (12) (S)
7	7.00 Countryfile Ellie Harrison and Sean Fletcher present the show from the Hay Festival. (S)	7.00 Dragons' Den The panel assesses more money-spinning ideas. Evan Davis presents. (S)(R)	7.00 Vera The detective investigates the murder of a fisherman whose body was found tangled up in a trawler's net. (S)(R)	7.00 A Very British Hotel Mandarin Oriental hosts a wedding ceremony. (S)(R)	
8	8.00 Antiques Roadshow Fiona Bruce returns to BBC Caversham, near Reading. (S)	8.00 The Life Swap Adventure A nurse from Nottingham and a B&B owner from Alaska swap places. (S)		8.00 Great Canal Journeys: India The first of two programmes in which Timothy West and Prunella Scales explore India. (S)	8.00 That's So 1982 A look at 1982, using news, pop and TV archive clips. (S)(R)
9	9.00 Poldark Ross is reunited with an old friend of his father, who tells him that Dwight is facing execution. He decides to turn down the position of magistrate and sets sail for France. (S)	9.00 Theresa v Boris: The Battle to be PM Docu-drama telling the story of the Conservative Party's 2016 leadership campaign. (S)	9.00 The Loch A forensic psychologist joins the team following the discovery of a human heart by the lakeside. (S)	9.00 The Handmaid's Tale Offred is punished by Serena Joy, which forces her to reflect on her time at the Red Centre. (S)	9.00 Big Brother Daily round-up of highlights, featuring the latest tasks, games, arguments, laughs, diary room visits and bedroom chit-chat. Narrated by Marcus Bentley. (S)
10	10.00 BBC News (S) 10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather (S) 10.30 FILM Thor: The Dark World (2013) (12) Superhero adventure sequel. (S)	10.15 Mock the Week With James Acaster, Ed Gamble, Rhys James, Nish Kumar and Zoe Lyons. (S)(R) 10.45 White Gold (S)(R)	10.00 ITV News; Weather (S) 10.20 Peston on Sunday Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston. Allegra Stratton presents a guide to the latest issues on social media. (S)(R)	10.15 Merciless Brazilian crime drama.	10.00 Most Shocking Reality Moments A celebration of the nation's long-running love affair with reality TV. (S)(R)
11		11.15 Cricket: ICC Champions Trophy Highlights Action from the final at The Oval in south London. (S)	11.20 Lethal Weapon Riggs and Murtaugh protect an ambulance-chasing attorney linked to the cartel. (S)(R)	11.10 FILM End of Watch (2012) (15) Crime thriller, with Jake Gyllenhaal and Michael Pena. (S)	
AFTER 12	12.10 Weather for the Week Ahead (S) 12.15 BBC News (S)	12.05 Athletics: Diamond League Stockholm Highlights (S) 1.05 Sign Zone: Question Time (S)(R) 2.05 Holby City (S)(R) 3.05 This Is BBC Two (S)	12.15 Jackpot247 3.00 Motorsport UK (S) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)	1.05 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (S)(R) 1.55 The Last Leg: Re-United Kingdom (S)(R) 3.45 KOTV Boxing Weekly (S) 4.10 Gillette World Sport (S) 4.40 Mobil 1 The Grid (S)(R) 5.05 Location, Location, Location (R)	12.55 Access (S) 1.00 SuperCasino 3.10 FILM Adulthood (2008) (15) Drama sequel, starring Noel Clarke. (S) 4.50 House Doctor (S)(R) 5.15 Wildlife SOS (S)(R) 5.40 Angels of Jarm (S)(R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 The Vamps: The Hot Desk **6.10** You've Been Framed! Gold **7.00** Emmerdale **9.40** Coronation Street **12.05** The Voice Kids **1.40** Take Me Out Celebrity Special **2.45** FILM: Freaky Friday (2003) (PG) Disney comedy remake, starring Jamie Lee Curtis and Lindsay Lohan. **3.45** FYI Daily **3.50** FILM: Freaky Friday (2003) (PG) Concluded. **4.50** FILM: Despicable Me 2 (2013) (U) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Steve Carell. **5.50** FYI Daily **5.55** FILM: Despicable Me 2 (2013) (U) Concluded. **6.55** FILM: Step Up 2: The Streets (2008) (PG) Drama, starring Briana Evigan. **7.55** FYI Daily **8.00** FILM: Step Up 2: The Streets (2008) (PG) Concluded. **9.00** Love Island **10.00** Love Island: Aftersun **11.00** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **1.50** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Agatha Christie's Marple **7.50** Heartbeat **10.00** Murder, She Wrote **12.05** FILM: Murder on the Orient Express (1974) (PG) **1.05** FYI Daily **1.10** FILM: Murder on the Orient Express (1974) (PG) Concluded. **2.45** Agatha Christie's Marple **4.50** Foyle's War **6.55** Sunday Night at the Palladium **8.00** Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans **9.00** Joanna Lumley's Japan **10.00** Law & Order: UK **12.05** Wire in the Blood **3.30** May the Best House Win **5.10** On the Buses **5.35** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Secret Knowledge: Nina Simone & Me with Laura Mvula **7.30** BBC Cardiff Singer of the World 2017 Final **10.00** Doris Day: Virgin Territory **11.00** Buddy Holly: Rave On **12.00** Horizon: Who's Afraid of a Big Black Hole? **1.00** Voyager: To the Final Frontier **2.00** The Magic of Mushrooms **3.00** Battle for the Himalayas: The Fight to Film Everest **4.00** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 New Girl **6.25** Couples Come Dine with Me **8.25** Hollyoaks **11.00** The Goldbergs: Father's Day **1.30** The Big Bang Theory: Father's Day **5.50** FILM: Avatar (2009) (12) Sci-fi adventure, starring Sam Worthington. **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** FILM: Kick-Ass 2 (2013) (15) Superhero comedy sequel, starring Aaron Taylor-Johnson. **12.00** Gogglebox **1.00** The Inbetweeners **2.10** 8 Out of 10 Cats **2.55** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.40** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Location, Location, Location **10.00** Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb **11.05** Grand Designs New Zealand **12.05** Come Dine with Me **2.50** Four in a Bed **5.25** Come Dine with Me **8.00** The Secret Life of the Zoo **9.00** Father Ted **10.05** Parenting for Idiots **11.10** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **12.10** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **1.05** Father Ted **2.10** Parenting for Idiots **3.15** 8 Out of 10 Cats Uncut **4.00** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 The Frogmen (1951) (U) Second World War thriller, starring Richard Widmark. **1.00** Fast Girls (2012) (12) Sporting drama, with Lenora Cichlow and Lily James. **2.45** Congo (1995) (12) Jungle adventure, starring Dylan Walsh. **4.55** Rio 2 (2014) (U) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Jesse Eisenberg. **6.55** Johnny English Reborn (2011) (PG) Spy comedy sequel, starring Rowan Atkinson. **9.00** Lone Survivor (2013) (15) Fact-based Afghanistan war drama, starring Mark Wahlberg. **11.20** Man on Fire (2004) (18) Action thriller, starring Denzel Washington. **2.10** The Beat Beneath My Feet (2015) (15) **4.00** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

6.00 Home Shopping **7.10** Traffic Cops **8.00** Red Bull Soapbox Race **9.00** Top Gear **10.00** Traffic Cops **11.30** Outnumbered **1.30** Top Gear India Special **3.30** The Joy of Techs **4.30** Dara O Briain's Go 8 Bit **5.30** Go 8 Bit: DLC **6.00** Red Bull Soapbox Race **7.00** Top Gear **8.00** Traffic Cops **9.00** QI XL **10.00** Taskmaster **11.00** QI XL **12.00** Live at the Apollo **1.00** Reginald D Hunter Live **2.15** QI **4.00** Home Shopping

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.00 The Bill **10.45** Emma **2.45** Catherine Cookson's The Girl **5.45** The Musketeers **7.00** The Mrs Bradley Mysteries **8.00** Mercy Street **9.00** Silent Witness **11.20** Spooks **12.45** Taggart **3.25** Garden Hopping **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** Futurama **9.30** Monkey Life **12.00** WWE Raw **1.00** David Attenborough's Conquest of the Skies **4.00** Modern Family **6.30** The Simpsons **8.00** A League of Their Own: US Road Trip 2.0 **9.00** Hawaii Five-0 **10.00** Micky Flanagan Thinking Aloud **11.00** MacGyver **12.00** A League of Their Own: US

Road Trip 2.0 **1.00** The Blacklist **2.00** Most Daring **3.00** Zoo **4.00** Stop, Search, Seize **5.00** Zoo Tales

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 Storm City **7.00** Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer **9.00** Urban Secrets **10.00** House **1.00** The Bachelor King **2.30** David Attenborough's Natural History Museum Alive **4.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Riviera **10.00** Real Time with Bill Maher **11.10** Veep **11.45** Game of Thrones **12.50** Twin Peaks: The Return **3.10** The Borgias **4.05** The Guest Wing

W SKY: 109

6.00 Boston's Finest **6.40** Your Home in Their Hands **8.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars **12.00** Doctor Who **2.00** My Family **4.00** Outnumbered **6.00** The Blue Planet **7.00** David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities **8.00** Educating Yorkshire **9.00** Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders **10.00** Louis Theroux's LA Stories **11.20** Ordinary Lies **12.35** Grimm **1.25** Betty White's Off Their Rockers **2.15** Boston's Finest **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 One Foot in the Grave **7.30** The Interviews **8.30** Only Fools and Horses **4.35** Citizen Khan **6.45** Only Fools and Horses **9.00** Citizen Khan **11.00** Men Behaving Badly **12.20** The Thick of It **1.35** Limmy's Show **2.45** The Armando Iannucci Shows **3.15** Men Behaving Badly **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Football League Gold **6.15** Football Gold **7.00** Premier League Legends **8.00** British and Irish Lions Tour **9.00** International Rugby Union **10.00** Football League Gold **10.15** Football Gold **11.00** Premier League Legends **12.00** British and Irish Lions Tour **12.30** International Rugby Union **2.00** Premier League Legends **2.30** British and Irish Lions Tour **3.00** International Rugby Union **4.30** Live UEFA European Under-21s Championship Football: Germany v Czech Republic (kick-off 5.00pm). **7.00** Premier League 100 Club **7.30** Live UEFA European Under-21s Championship Football: Denmark v Italy (kick-off 7.45pm). **10.00** Live MLS: Philadelphia Union v New York Red Bulls (kick-off 10.00pm). **12.05** Premier League 100 Club **1.00** Football's Greatest Teams **2.00** Premier League Years **4.00** Sporting Heroes: Gary Newbon Interviews Lennox Lewis **5.00** Premier League 100 Club **5.30** Spanish Football Gold

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ENTERTAINMENT & LEISURE

A dream fit for any season

By Josh Cox

THE multi-award-winning Ballet Cymru present a stunning version of one of Shakespeare's most magical plays *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

This funny and heart-warming adaptation of one of the most famous stories in English literature features vibrant classical choreography portrayed by some of the finest dancers in the UK.

Felix Mendelssohn's joyous music is interpreted by artistic director Darius James and highlights radiant costumes, sets and video projection.

The Queen of the Fairies Titania, and Puck the mischievous messenger, inhabit the supernatural fairy kingdom. Bottom and his boot-wearing Rude Mechanicals present their famous play *Pyramus and Thisbe*.

Finally, the lovers, caught in a thrilling web of mistaken identity and confusion, finally find their way through the Athenian forest to an unforgettable and joyous reconciliation.

The performers comprise of a young, vital group of dancers who are pushing back the barriers of classical ballet. Using powerful and timeless stories, the company challenges its dancers to interpret some of the finest



characters in literature.

Ballet Cymru was established in 1986 by artistic director Darius James and administrative director Yvonne Williams to be a beacon for quality classical ballet in Wales.

The group initially experimented with a range of choreographers,

created programmes of short works and responded to invitations to perform.

The company, at this stage, commissioned works from Royal Ballet principal Jennifer Jackson and Isabelle Taylor from The Royal Swedish Ballet.

Adult tickets for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on Friday June 30 at 7.30pm are priced at £19; over 65, under 16 and full-time student tickets cost £17.

To book, call the Anvil Arts box office on 01256 844244 or visit anvilarts.org.uk.

Mixing modern arts

ARTS: Kala the Arts is taking place at The Haymarket on Sunday.

A new production combines various Indian classical styles with spoken words and poetry composed to modern music.

The performance begins at 4pm. Adult tickets are £14, over 65s, under 16s and full-time student tickets are £12.

Homecoming gig

MUSIC: Backbone Blues Band will be performing at the Basingstoke Blues Club on Saturday at 8pm.

One of the best kept blues secrets in the UK, the band are a British rarity. They are better known in the USA with six successful annual tours of the States completed.

The band are now back in England where they're set to play numerous festivals and club gigs.

In the mood

MUSIC: IJO Big Band will return to The Haymarket on Saturday to showcase the music of the Glenn Miller Orchestra.

It will feature many of Miller's greatest hits, including pieces from contemporaries such as Benny Goodman and Charlie Barnet.

It starts at 7.30pm.



Enjoy Carmen at The Grange

By Josh Cox

AN idyllic setting with stunning grounds will provide the backdrop to a stunning new performance of one of the best loved operas.

The Grange at Alresford will host the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra for the eagerly-anticipated new production of Bizet's *Carmen*.

Dougie Scarfe, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's chief executive, said: "The opera programme at the BSO has become a cherished part

of our season and we are delighted that through this new partnership we will continue to be part of world-class opera at The Grange.

"I am very excited by the creative possibilities of working with Michael Chance and his team and am looking forward to our first season together."

The Grange Festival was founded in 2015 to continue opera at Grange Park in Northampton, and is committed to bringing the highest standards of performances to audiences through a range of opera and

theatrical work.

Led by artistic director Michael Chance, the season this month will open with the Academy of Ancient Music and the exciting production of Monteverdi's *Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria* in the 450th year since the composer's death.

The Grange and its grounds will provide a magical backdrop to this performance and guests are invited to arrive early to make the most of the unique atmosphere.

The grounds will open two hours

before the performance begins, leaving time to enjoy a drink under the Portico at the Champagne Bar, tea and cake in one of the marquees, or explore the surroundings.

During the 100 minute interval, audiences can experience fine dining in The Grange's restaurant or bring a blanket and enjoy a picnic.

Conducted by Jean-Luc Tingaud, *Carmen* will be performed on June 15, 17, 23, 28 and 30 and July 8.

Visit thegrangefestival.co.uk for more information.

Folk-rock classics

MUSIC: Blowin' in the Wind, a celebration of the great folk-rock music from Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Joni Mitchell and John Lennon, is on Friday at The Haymarket.

International vocalists and multi-instrumentalists bring vibrant new interpretations of these timeless tunes and wonderful words.

The gig starts at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £17.50.

Singing together

MUSIC: The Basingstoke Primary Schools Festival - One Sun One World is taking place at The Anvil on Tuesday and Wednesday.

This annual concert brings together around 25 primary schools, involving over 500 children in a massed choir, orchestra and dance extravaganza.

Shows at 7pm, tickets are £12.

Cutting 21 to six

MUSIC: The Forge in Basingstoke is where guitarist Derek Gripper will be taking centre stage on Friday.

Having fallen in love with the rich and ancient repertoire of the West African kora, Derek has transferred music played on its 21 strings to the six strings of the Western guitar.

Tickets £14.50, gig starts at 8pm.

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When you write a Will, it's not for your benefit. You do it because you want to ensure that you've done your best to protect family and loved ones; to ease pressure - emotionally and financially - when you're no longer here.

Making your Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is something you can do for yourself - it's a precaution you can take to protect your finances, health and wellbeing.

As we age the odds of illness or accident resulting in limited physical or mental capacity increases and with it the ability to make our own decisions or choices - from the food we eat to the health care we receive - is diminished or lost. But you have a voice and that voice can be legally recognised.

By making your LPA you can elect those that you trust and want to make

decisions on your behalf when you are no longer able to. You can choose one or several people and include restrictions and guidelines for your Attorney(s) to follow. Legally, they are required to follow certain principles, including amongst others:

- (1) the assumption that you have capacity until it is established that you don't
- (2) just because you've made an unwise decision does not mean you are assumed to be unable to make your own decisions and
- (3) any decisions must be made in your best interests.

Without an LPA, your loved ones will face a lengthy, stressful and costly application to the Court of Protection for an appropriate person to be named as Deputy. What's most important to note is that it is the Court's decision who is named as

Deputy and this may be someone you didn't quite trust to make decisions for you or in some cases, it may be an official who doesn't know you well enough.

Michael Usher Wills & Estate Planning can help you navigate this complex application process. Our friendly and efficient service helps you make the right decisions without feeling too frustrated or stressed by forms and legal requirements. We also offer a free Will review to ensure it is up to date and will still do the things you want it to do. Appointments are available Monday to Saturday at times that suit you, either at our offices or in your home if that is more comfortable for you. Find out what our customers are saying about us at www.checkaprofessional.com and www.trustpilot.com.



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ENTERTAINMENT & LEISURE

Sentimental drama packs a punch at the finish

Gifted (PG)

By Laurie Bailey

WITHIN five minutes of Marc Webb's *Gifted*, my eyes were rolling. A preternaturally intelligent, super-sassy seven-year-old girl (Mary, played by McKenna Grace), sent to a 'real' school so she can make friends and get into fights like 'ordinary' people? Hand me the sick bag!

Things only got worse when trendy uncle and surrogate father Frank (Captain America's Chris Evans) turned up, joining Mary in the kind of teeth-gratingly ironic banter only Hollywood believes is authentic. Throw in quirky acoustic music, a one-eyed cat and a teacher (Jenny Slate as Bonnie) whose main role is to raise delighted eyebrows at Mary's genius, and you've got all the trimmings for a vomit-inducing saccharine snooze-fest. So imagine my great surprise to feel tears welling up by the end.

What *Gifted* can't smother with its sentimental presentation is an interesting and genuinely moving story. Mary isn't just an endearingly charming child genius - she is also the daughter and granddaughter of troubled women.

The real drama announces itself in

the form of a custody dispute, throwing up questions to do with parenting, purpose, identity and compromise, all of which are surprisingly well handled. It is hard not to care for Mary's fate, and wonder what is truly right or best in her situation - if indeed any of the options are either of those things.

Credit for this remarkable turnaround must go to the cast, who fully commit to their characters and give them a depth the script does not deserve. Lindsay Duncan prevents domineering grandmother Evelyn from becoming a shallow stereotype, while Chris Evans manages to suggest turmoil behind a stoic exterior - but the real star is McKenna Grace, whose balance of innocence and understanding feels genuine, successfully generating real emotion in a number of scenes.

Sadly, the film's amateurish elements outweigh these positives. Conversations transparently move the plot along and signal the drama where required, feeling more robotic than personal. While we are treated to several ham-fisted philosophical and existential discussions, we rarely hear the more simple - and realistic - expressions of feeling to be expected from the film's



McKenna Grace as Mary Adler in *Gifted*
Image courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation

events and emotional context.

Likewise, basic direction and shot construction offer nothing to aid the film's themes, shouldering the medi-

ocre script with far too much responsibility. It's not a great film, but there are some good ideas buried amongst the mess - if you're willing to do the digging.

Laurie is an Oxford-based film critic, movie podcast host and BBC Radio Oxford film contributor. He lives locally with his wife, daughter and son. See more of his film reviews at lauriebailey.co.uk

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Mazda MX-5 RF 160ps SE-L Nav

Everyone should have one of these

By **Tony Yates**

THE Mazda MX-5 now comes with a retractable fastback (RF) which if I am honest, looks stylish, practical and features a unique power retractable hardtop that fits in well with the award-winning shape and stunningly balanced proportions of the new generation MX-5.

Of course I am a big fan of the MX-5 – I always have been, because for me it's the only two-seater sports car worth taking about for under £24k.

Also, the styling has moved on so much since it first arrived back in 1989, which is yet another reason why I think the MX-5 is now one of the most desirable sports cars to own.

Power and efficiency

Fitted with a SKYACTIV-G direct-injection 2.0 litre four-cylinder in-line DOHC, 16 valve petrol engine with 160ps @ 6000rpm, 200Nm of torque and a fantastic and nimble 6 speed gearbox that is pretty much perfect

in every way.

That's the thing about the MX-5, it takes you to another place – a place where you can feel the connection it has with you and the road ahead. Put it this way, driving the MX-5 on a twisty road in my book is one of the best places to be. Let's not forget about its healthy 0-62 time of around 7.4sec and an impressive 40.9mpg (combined) along with a top speed of around 134mph.

On the road

Nimble, frisky and downright sublime – and that's just to get you started. The handling is also just as superb thanks to the Mazda engineers getting everything right and getting all those all important components working together in perfect harmony. There have also been some new revisions to the shock absorbers, front stabiliser bar and rear springs, links and bump-stops on the front double wishbone and rear multi-link suspension – which all helps in giving the new

MX-5 RF a more cultured ride.

Design & technology

The design of the MX-5 has stood the test of time really well – even with the new LED lighting changes and the body boosting upgrades, you can still tell it's an MX-5.

Sitting inside any two-seater sports car is tight – but for some reason the MX-5 feels spacious and not really that tight at all. Headroom and legroom are also good and I was really surprised that none of my limbs needed to be man handled into place before I could sit inside.

Additional standard equipment on the SE-L Nav includes; 17" Gunmetal alloy wheels, Dynamic Stability Control (DSC), Limited Slip Differential (LSD), Drivers and passengers front and side airbags, climate control air-conditioning, 7" Colour touch-screen display and Multimedia Commander, DAB radio, Piano Black fashion bars and power retractable hardtop roof.



To sum up

What can I say – the MX-5 is the perfect little two-seater that everyone should at some point in their life experience.

I would recommend that you go out and test drive the new RF – and then immediately drive it around some fast bends with the roof down and the stereo set to 'loud'.

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Mixed feelings for Collard

By Adam Flinn

ROB Collard closed the gap on the championship lead at the weekend after a consistent showing, but admitted he was frustrated not to come away with more.

The north Hampshire BTCC driver continued his run of finishing in the points on every occasion this season during the three races at the North Yorkshire circuit, Croft.

He brought his BMW home in fourth, third and eighth on Sunday to move within 11 points of current standings leader Gordon Shedden at the halfway point of the year.

But on a day where his West Surrey Racing team showed plenty of promise, Collard might have been anticipating a little bit more for his efforts.

He said: "I have mixed feelings about the weekend.

"On the one hand it's great to maintain my run of scoring points in every race and finishing on the podium at every event because it keeps me right in the

hunt for the championship.

"However, we've had such strong pace, it's a little frustrating my results haven't quite reflected this.

"I'm confident of continuing this strong run at Snetterton after the summer break."

In typical Collard fashion, the 48-year-old made a storming start and worked his way up from 11th on the grid to fourth in race one, muscling his way past Shedden at the penultimate corner of the last lap.

Race two saw Collard involved in a three-way scrap for the lead with team-mate Colin Turkington and the Subaru of Ash Sutton.

He was on the back of them both for much of the race, but wasn't able to get past and had to settle for third.

The reverse grid meant he lined up for race three in seventh, and again made progress to fifth where he was dicing with Jason Plato.

However a resurgent Matt Neal making his way up the order caught up to Collard

Rob Collard makes his way up the order in race one
Picture: West Surrey Racing



and tagged the back of his car, sending Collard off track.

He quickly recovered but lost a few positions in the process, finishing eighth at the chequered flag – crucially though one spot ahead of Shedden.

The current standings see Shedden lead on 188 points, with Collard second on 177 and

Turkington third on 176.

The BTCC now enjoys its summer break, with the next round of the championship at Snetterton in Norfolk on July 30.

Bison captain back for fifth season

BASINGSTOKE Bison captain Aaron Connolly will lace up his skates for a fifth season with the Herd after re-signing last week.

The 24-year-old forward has already made more than 200 appearances for the team, and will remain the captain for a third season.

Head coach Doug Sheppard said: "Aaron plays the game the Bison way and brings so much to the team both on and off the ice.

"He is the spark to get training going and players feed off him on match day. He is an important member of our team."

However it has also been announced that Ciaran Long and Declan Balmer will both be leaving the club as they take up opportunities to play in the Elite league next season.

Both are long-serving members of the squad, with Long spending three and a half seasons with Bison, and Balmer

notching up 156 appearances.

Sheppard added: "I have always said that I will never stand in a player's way of competing at the highest level.

"Both Ciaran and Declan are outstanding talents who need to play at a higher level in order to continue developing their skills.

"I know our fanbase will be gutted by this news, but this is the best move possible for their hockey future and they depart with our best wishes."



Aaron Connolly will stay at Bison. Picture: grantkingphotography.com

Batting prowess shines through for Hook victory

FOUR half centuries helped Hook and Newnham Basics to an emphatic victory over Sarisbury Athletic as they won by 83 runs.

Ben Thane, Jordan Hobday, Matthew Buckingham and Nicholas Willcock all surpassed the 50-run mark in a very impressive innings with

the bat for Hook.

They eventually finished their 50 overs on 299-8, although that did include losing four wickets in the final over as they tried to reach the 300s.

Sarisbury didn't do too badly in response, in particular with opener Ricky Rawlins hitting

a century off 99 balls before eventually posting 119.

The rest of the batters couldn't match Rawlins' achievements though, and Sarisbury were all out for 216.

Hook are sitting fifth in Division One of the Southern Premier Cricket League with a points average of 14.33.

In Division Two, Hartley Wintney also enjoyed a victory as they beat Trojans by 88 runs.

William Kerr hit a century for the north Hampshire side as they finished their innings all out for 253.

Trojans couldn't get close in response though, with Dan

Reynaldo and Mark Teale both taking three wickets each as they were bowled out for 169.

Hartley Wintney are up to third in the standings with a 16.67 average.

Rowledge are Hook's opponents this Saturday, while Hartley Wintney host Totton and Eling.

Sport Bites

Kenton on top

KARTING: Basingstoke's Kenton Ashforth has regained his Southern Championships karting title, seven years after his last win.

The 51-year-old was competing at Forest Edge Kart Club on June 3 and 4 in 250cc superkarts that have a 0-60mph time of 2.5 seconds.

Ashforth said: "I'm delighted to get it back. I'm not a young man anymore and racing all these young guys is hard!"

Rose to tee off

GOLF: Justin Rose will play alongside former world number ones Jason Day and Rory McIlroy for the first two rounds of the US Open.

The tournament at Erin Hills, Wisconsin, gets under way today, with north Hampshire golfer Rose looking to reclaim the major he won in 2013 – so far his only major success.

He will start from the first tee at 8.09pm UK time.

Podium finish

MOTORSPORT: Ricky Collard picked up a podium in round three of the ADAC GT Masters in Austria at the weekend.

Alongside team-mate Philipp Eng, Collard finished third in race one and fifth in race two, translating to second and third in the junior class.

Collard said: "Philipp drove magnificently and pulled off some great overtaking moves. I continue to learn from race to race, and I'm constantly improving."

Junior victory

SHOWJUMPING: Harry Charles from Alton enjoyed a triumphant day in the Netherlands on Saturday by picking up a Junior Grand Prix win.

The 17-year-old was riding his dad Peter's horse Vivaldi du Dom, and was the only person to break the 39 second barrier.

He said: "As I came to the finish line I knew I had been fast so wouldn't be far off the current leader, but it wasn't until afterwards I realised I had managed to shave more than two seconds from their time."



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Inside: Comfortable wins for Hook and Hartley Wintney | Bison captain to stay, but two big names leave | Rose ready for US Open

'Stoke beat table toppers to get campaign back on track

By Matthew Brown

BASINGSTOKE and North Hants CC (BNHCC) got back to winning ways in the Southern League Division One on Saturday with a six-wicket home victory over top of the table Bournemouth.

Chasing 175 to win, captain Mitch Stokes took inspiration from England namesake Ben to top-score with 89 not out.

The visitors won the toss and chose to bat first at May's Bounty with Basingstoke opening fast bowler Martyn James (3-13) tearing into the top order.

Nick Park was the first to go, trapped LBW for 11, followed by Ben Bridgen (19), who was caught by captain Stokes, and Luke Matthews (12), caught by David Griffiths.

This left Basingstoke in a good position to dismiss Bournemouth relatively cheaply at 52-3.

Bournemouth captain Chris Park (33) and Simon Woodruff (61) tried to rebuild the innings but William Phillips (3-46) pegged them back.

The final six Bournemouth batsman added just 21 runs as they succumbed to 174 all out from 48.1 overs, failing to bat out their allocated 50 overs.

In reply, Bountymen openers Christopher Oliver (14) and George Metzger (10) fell cheaply.

Oliver was bowled by Matthew Jones and Metzger was following soon after when he nicked Chrys-tian Michalowski to wicket keeper Chris Park.

This left Basingstoke in a little trouble at 28-2 and found themselves 42-3 when Phillips nicked behind to Park off the bowling of Dominic Clut-terbuck for five.

However any nerves were quickly put to bed by Stokes.

He led from the front and was ably assisted by David Griffiths (28) and Dean Nurse who finished on 16 not out.

Basingstoke ran out winners fairly comfortably with almost 17 overs to spare. Stokes finished on 89 not out from 75 balls that included 12 fours and one six.

This victory put BNHCC into second place behind Calmore Sports, while Bournemouth fell to third.

Next up for the Bountymen is Portsmouth away before facing Ventnor the following day in the T20.

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Rob Collard kept up the pressure on BTCC standings leader and reigning series champion Gordon Shedden with another consistent weekend, this time at Croft.

The Hook-based racer finished third in race two and secured top-10 results in races one and three to keep his record of being the only driver to score in every event this year.

It means he is 11 points behind Shedden at the halfway point of the championship heading into the summer break. See inside sport for full story.

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